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URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES

THE
ANNUAL
REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer
of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR 1952

LEES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1952-1953

Chairman of the Council :

COUNCILLOR H. K. DYSON, J.P.

Health Committee :

Councillor J. Barker, *Chairman*

„ J. Gartside
„ S. Pearson
„ J. G. Sweatman
„ F. Ward
„ H. Wilkinson
„ F. Rowland
„ H. K. Dyson
„ H. Slack
„ H. Hirst
„ L. Leigh
„ J. Allen
„ O. Bevan
„ R. Scott
„ H. Travis

Clerk of the Council :

H. BOARDMAN, retired 30th August, 1952


F. A. CROPPER

Medical Officer of Health (part time) :

E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Sanitary Inspector :

G. OAKES, C.R.S.I.



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1952

ANNUAL REPORT

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Lees*

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report of the Health of the District for the year 1952.

It will be observed that the birth rate improved slightly as compared with last year, whilst the death rate fell noticeably so that the *status quo* of the population was maintained. Unfortunately, three infants died during the first month of life—giving an infantile mortality rate of 55.

The incidence of infectious disease remained low throughout the year, no case of diphtheria was notified, and the district, after several alarms, escaped any case of Alastrim from the Rochdale outbreak.

May I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the members of the Health Committee, for their support and to all Officers of the Council for their ready co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

General Statistics.

Area in acres	288
Population (preliminary census 1951).....	4160
Registrar-General's estimated resident population mid-1952	4184
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books.....	1506
Rateable Value	£20,575
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£80

Vital Statistics.

The main vital statistics for the year, after correction for inward and outward transfers, as furnished by the Registrar-General are given in Table 1.

TABLE I.

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population mid-1951	Crude Births	Adjusted Births
Live Births (legitimate) ...	51	26	25		13.1	
" (illegitimate) ...	4	2	2			13.4
" Total	55	28	27			
Still Births	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)	Births	54.5
Deaths	53	25	28	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population mid.1951	Crude	12.7
Deaths from Puerperal causes				{ Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	Adjusted	11.5
Infant Mortality: —					Other Maternal causes		0
Total { Number of Deaths registered						0
Rate per 1,000 live births						3
Neo-Natal { Number of Deaths registered						55
Rate per 1,000 live births						3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....						55
" Heart Disease (all ages)						4
" Bronchitis (all ages)						10
						3

2.—Causes of Death

	Male Female	
	25	28
All causes .....(53)		
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2 Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0
4 Whooping Cough	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	0	1
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0
8 Syphilitic diseases	0	0
9 Influenza	0	0
10 Measles	0	0
11 Ac. polio-myel: and polio-enceph.	0	0
12 Ac. inf. encceph.	0	0
13 Cancer of buc.cav.and oesoph (M) uterus (F)	1	0
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	0
15 Cancer of breast	0	0
16 Cancer of all other sites	1	1
17 Diabetes	0	2
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	2	6
19 Heart Disease ..	7	3
20 Other diseases of Circulatory system	9	9
21 Bronchitis	1	2
22 Pneumonia	1	0
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	0	0
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	0
25 Diarrhœa, (under 2 years)	0	0
26 Appendicitis	0	0
27 Other Digestive Diseases	1	0
28 Nephritis	0	0
29 Puerperal and post-abortive Sepsis	0	0
30 Other maternal causes	0	0
31 Premature birth	0	0
32 Con. mal. birth inj. infact dis.	0	0
33 Suicide	0	0
34 Road traffic accidents.....	0	0
35 Other violence causes.....	0	0
36 All other causes	1	4

3—Notifiable Diseases, (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1952 :—

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED											Deaths. Total	Hospital.	
	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.									age un-known			
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-				
Small Pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	5	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Diphtheria including membranous croup.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever, excluding Paratyphoid.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paratyphoid Fever	10	4	1	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles, excluding German Measles	9	1	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough.....	3	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
AcutePneumonia, primary and influenzl.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningococcal Infection.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute poliomyelitis—paralytic .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" " non-paralytic .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute encephalitis—infective .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" " post infective.....	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	6	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Malaria, contracted in this country .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria, contracted abroad .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Food Poisoning.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any others notifiable in district, e.g. Chicken pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other disease.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	35	6	8	8	8	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	3	0

TUBERCULOSIS

(1)—The notification of Tuberculosis is efficient in the district.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1952.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...								
1—2 ...								
2—5 ...								
5—10 ...		1	1					
10—15 ...								
15—20 ...								
20—25 ...								
25—35 ...	2	2						
35—45 ...		1				1		
45—55 ...					1			
55—65 ...								
65—75 ...								
75 & upward								
Totals...	2	4	1	0	1	1	0	0
	6		1		2		0	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES	Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
Number Notified						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Disinfection after Infectious Diseases :

Number of houses disinfected during 1952 8
Disinfectant used—FORMALIN and SULPHUR DIOXIDE

DISINFESTATION

Council houses Other houses

Number of houses found infested 0 0
Number of houses disinfested 0 0

Methods used : Formaldehyde gas.

General Provision of Health Services for the District.

Under the National Service Act 1946, Health Divisions were set up throughout the County Administrative Area, each Health Division being responsible for the following services:—

MATERNITY SERVICE.

One domiciliary Midwife serves the district. The Ante-Natal Clinic is held at the Princess Street Methodist School on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons.

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.

Full time Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire County Council.

CLINICS.

Held at the Princess Street Methodist School :
Ante- and Post-Natal—2nd and 4th Monday afternoon.
Child Welfare—Wednesday afternoon.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Clinic facilities are available at Firs Hall, Failsworth.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN'S ACT, 1948.

The Area Children's Officer is Mrs. France, Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-u-Lyne.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are no Day Nurseries provided by the County Council situated within the district. Two cotton mills however provide nurseries with places in the district.

AMBULANCE.

The Ambulance Service is provided by the Oldham Corporation under an agency service agreement with the Lancashire County Council.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

Home helps are available for emergency cases, priority being given to maternity cases, general sickness cases, and the elderly infirm. The services of a home help can be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Provided by the Lancashire County Council — one District Nurse resides in the area.

CONVALESCENCE.

Is available under arrangement by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

WELFARE SERVICE.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council, resident accommodation is available at Boundary Park annexe.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic is situated in Brook Street, Chadderton where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred. X-ray facilities are available at the clinic.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Hospitals available for the residents of Lees are :—
General and Maternity cases—Boundary Park General Hospital.
Infectious Diseases—Westhulme Hospital, Oldham.

This District is within Health Division No. 14 the Office for which is at :—

“Tylon”

Middleton Road,

Chadderton,

Phone : MAIn (Oldham) 6251/2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47.

Number of applications made during the year 1952..... 0

Number of orders made 0

**Report of the Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent**

Health Department,
Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.

July, 1953.

To the Chairman and
Members of the Health Committee.

Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report upon the Sanitary Administration of the district and the work done during the year 1952.

Details of this work are given in the following pages, so I take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to the members and officials of the Council and to the staff for the co-operation and assistance I have received during the year.

GEORGE OAKES,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Sanitary Administration

WATER SUPPLY

There is an efficient supply of water of good quality provided from the Oldham Corporation Waterworks for the whole district.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination:

Filtration and Chlorination takes place at the source and tests are carried out by the Oldham County Borough.

No cases of lead contamination have been notified.

During the year 10 new houses built by the Council were supplied with water.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Medlock which flows along the Western boundary of the District, receives the sewage effluent from the Sewage Works at Crossbank. Two other streams converge on the Eastern boundary and join the River Medlock at the South West part of the District at Holts.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewerage of the greater part of the district is conveyed to the sewers of the Oldham County Borough—the flow being checked by Lea Recorders—and is treated at their Outfall works. The remainder is treated at our own Sewage works, by the method of precipitation, continuous filters, percolating filters and humus tanks, prior to discharge of effluent in the River Medlock.

All drains are examined before being covered in, and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Privy Middens	0
Pail Closets	0
Dry Ash Pits	0
Movable Ashbins	1480
Trough Closets	0
Waste Water Closets	78
Fresh Water Closets	1480
Number of houses on water carriage system.....	1507

Conversions during 1952

Number of Trough closets to fresh W.C's.	0
„ Waste „ „ „	0
Number of houses at which movable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	0

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE

This is carried out satisfactorily by the Sanitary authority by weekly collection and a salvage scheme is operated. Refuse is collected weekly by motor vehicle and disposed of by partially controlled tipping at the Council tip at Tumbling Bank. Approximately 1300 tons of refuse were removed.

The Council since 19th September, 1951, have operated a scheme for the provision and maintenance of Dustbins as a charge upon the General Rate fund. During 1952, 164 Dustbins were provided.

Sanitary Inspections during 1952 including Houses

During the year 591 premises were visited of which 171 were dwelling houses and 420 various other premises.

In the course of these inspections 131 defects or nuisances were found and 143 were abated.

To secure the abatement of these defects and nuisances 59 informal and 7 formal notices were served upon the owners or agents in addition to personal interviews by the Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS

There are four day-schools in the District. The sanitary condition of the W.C. and lavatory accommodation at the Schools within the District is fair, some of the accommodation is obsolete and requires attention. All the schools are supplied with water from the district mains.

SHOP ACT, 1950.

There are 91 shops in the district, which were visited at least twice during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

One case of a nuisance arising from smoke issuing from an industrial chimney situated outside the district was successfully dealt with—an automatic stoker being installed.

One lead peroxide gauge fixed at the Cemetery forms part of the joint Regional Scheme formed by seventeen Local authorities to investigate atmospheric pollution.

FACTORIES

Administration of the Factories Act 1937. Inspection for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions
Factories with mech. power	24	24		
without mechanical power	3	3		
Other premises under the Act	1	4		
TOTAL ...	28	31	—	—

2. Defects found.

Particulars	Number of defects			No. of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remed'd	Rep. to H.M. Ins.	
Want of cleanliness				
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature.....				
Inadequate ventilation.....				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective				
(c) not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act				
Totals	—	—	—	—

RODENT CONTROL.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

1. Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

Type of Property	Total	Notified by Occupier	Otherwise	Recorded	Rats Maj.	Rats Minor	Mice only
L.A. Property ...	11	3	0	3		3	
Dwelling-Houses ...	1400	27	0	3		3	
Business Premises ...	286	4	0	0		0	
Agricultural Property ...	18		1	1		1	
Total ...	1715	34	1	7	0	7	0

2. Measures of control by Local Authority

Type of Property	Number Inspected	No. of Inspections	Number of Notices served Sect. 4		Number of Treatments carried out			Block Treatments of Properties in different Occupancies under Sect. 5(1) or by Informal arrangement		
			Treat-meets	Works	By arrangement with Owner		under Sect. 5(1)	Surface No. of Separate Occupancies	No. of Blocks	Assocd. Sewers No. of Manholes treated
					Rat	Mice only	Rat			
L.A. Property ...	11	44			3					
Dwelling-Houses ...	103	137			3					
Business Premises ...	34	45								
Agricultural Property ...	18	24								
Total ...	166	250			6					

In addition two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the district involving the baiting and poisoning of approximately 181 man holes were carried out with much success.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

Number of registered distributors from :—

a. Own dairies in the district (shops).....	14
b. Dairy farms in the district	3
c. Premises outside the district	7

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

Number of dealers licences (including supplementary) issued by the Local Authority during 1950 in respect of :—

“Tuberculin Tested” Milk :

i. Bottling... 0	ii. Distribution ...14
------------------	------------------------

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of licenses issued in respect of “Heat-treated Milk”

Retail Distributors: (a) Pasteurised... 0 (b) Sterilised... 0

Action taken by Local Authority in relation to :—

a. Raw Milk,

i. Tuberculosis—biological tests			
No. of samples...0	No. positive...0	No. negative...0	
ii. Bacteriological examinations			
No. of samples ...0	No. satisfactory...0	No. unsatisfactory...0	
iii. Sediment tests			
No. of samples ...0	No. satisfactory...0	No. unsatisfactory...0	

b. “Heat-treated Milk”

i. “Phosphatase” test			
No. of samples ...0	No. satisfactory...0	No. unsatisfactory...0	
ii. Turbidity test			
No. of samples ...0	No. satisfactory...0	No. unsatisfactory ..0	
iii. Methylene Blue reduction test			
No. of samples ...0	No. satisfactory...0	No. unsatisfactory...0	
iv. Tuberculosis			
No. of samples.....0	No. positive.....0	No. negative.....0	

Number of notifications of tuberculous milk forwarded to Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Results of Ministry investigations during the year arising from notifications by the Local Authority

No. of Veterinary inspections	0
No. of cases where animals siezed under Tubercnlosis Order 1938...	0
No. of animals siezed	0
No. of cases reported negative, animals sold prior to investigation...	0
No. of cases reported negative—no animals siezed	0

MEAT SUPPLY

Slaughtering is not carried out in the district at the present time owing to the centralisation of Slaughter houses. Slaughtering for the district being done in Oldham.

FOOD PREMISES are inspected regularly.

Food inspected and condemned being unfit for human consumption during the year:

2 tins of Cooked Shoulder Ham	16 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
1 tin of cooked leg of Ham	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
17 4-oz. packets of Skimmed Milk Powder	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
Biscuits	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
1 carcase of Lamb	33 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
Total Weight ...	76 lb.

ICE CREAM.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sect. 14, and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. 1949.

All premises registered for the manufacture or sale of Ice Cream were regularly inspected. Premises and storage accommodation were found to be kept in a satisfactory hygienic condition.

Number of Premises registered to manufacture Ice Cream ... 0

Number of Premises registered to sell Ice Cream 14

FOOD POISONING

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

These are administered by the Police.

Housing.

(STATISTICS)

Number of new houses erected during the year :

	Prefabricated Houses		Traditional Permanent Houses
	Temporary	Permanent	
1. By the Local Authority.....	0	0	10
2. By other Local Authorities	0	0	0
3. By other Bodies or Persons	0	0	0

Unfit Dwelling Houses

1—Inspection

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 171
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 429
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 0
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 59

2—Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices

- (1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 71

3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A. *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
(a) By owners 0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... 0

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 7
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
(a) By owners 7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

E. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding:

(1)	(a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	69
	(b)	Number of families dwelling therein	122
	(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein	510
(2)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(3)	(a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	7
	(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	40

F. Housing Act 1949 :

(a)	(i)	Number of schemes submitted :	
		(a) by private individuals	0
		(b) by Local Authority	0
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses affected	0
(b)	(i)	Number of schemes approved :	
		(a) of private individuals	0
		(b) of Local Authority	0
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses affected	0
		Number of additional separate dwellings provided...	0
(c)		Any other action taken	0

